GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6335
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN KERALA
T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any requests for relaxation in the restriction to road construction in the forest area recommended by Kerala Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) There is no restriction on construction of road in the forest areas. However, the Forest (Conservation), Act, 1980 stipulates that no forest area should be diverted for non-forestry purposes including construction of roads without prior approval of the Central Government.

The State Government of Kerala had submitted 3 proposals for construction of roads in forest area in last five years i.e 1995 to 1999. All these 3 proposals have been approved by the Central Government .

(b)&(c) Do not arise.